

REMARKS

The present amendment is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first Office Action and simultaneously with the filing of the present application.

With this amendment applicants have amended the specification, cancelled claims 1-19 and added new claims 20-64, all in an effort to place the application in better condition for examination.

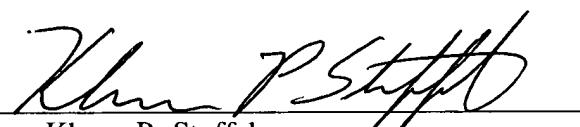
Favorable action on the present application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By


Klaus P. Stoffel
Reg. No. 31,668
551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210
New York, New York 10176
(212) 687-2770

Dated: March 31, 2000